

**PATENT**  
5298-04|00/PM000|2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Qiao et al.

Group Art Unit: 2812  
Examiner: Unknown

Serial No. 09/661,666

Atty. Dkt. No. 5298-04100


Filed: September 14, 2000

For: METHOD OF FORMING SELF  
ALIGNED CONTACTS ✓

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below: 01

1/5/01  
Date

indicated below:

  
Kevin L. Daffer

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant requests consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or ☒ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

I. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- a. ☒ within 3 months of the filing date of the above identified application, or within 3 months of entry into National stage prosecution of an International application, or before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- b. ☐ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:
- ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.
- c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:
- ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. ☒ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:

Serial No. 09/333,459 (5298-02800)

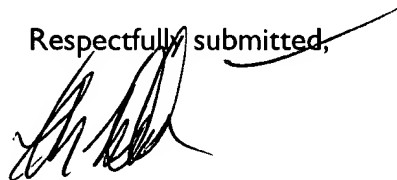
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:

- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) \_\_\_\_\_, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:

6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.
8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5298-04100/KLD.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin L. Daffer  
Reg. No. 34,146  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

CONLEY, ROSE & TAYON, P.C.  
P. O. Box 398  
Austin, Texas 78767  
(512) 476-1400

Date: 1/5/01